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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/495,089	01/31/2000	James E. Anderson	10990651-1	4376

22879 7590 05/14/2003

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 05/14/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/495,089

Applicant(s)

ANDERSON ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10,13 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9,11,12,14-20 and 22-28 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 January 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: line 6 on page 1 indicates the number of the reference of the Patent Application is missed. Please provide that number to the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 13, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Parsons et al. (US Patent No. 5,133,048) and McCormick et al. (US Patent No. 5,706,411).

As to claim 1, Parsons teaches a method for use with a printer (a printer 8 in fig. 2 and 3) the method comprising:

selectively configuring at least one print media supply tray (col. 6, lines 50-52 describes that a touchscreen 62 displays a Paper Supply file card 191 having icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 "in fig. 3". In fig. 10, the display screen shows a stock icon 202 representative of a paper supply tray 112 "col. 6, lines 50-52" with a current note of the paper size "8.5X14.0" and the paper type "Standard") based at least on a print media size (i.e., an icon 175-2 with a paper size of 8.5x14 in fig. 10) and a print media

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type (i.e., an icon 178-1 with a paper type of “Standard” in fig. 10; it is noted that the selective stock icon 202 “in fig. 10”, would be representative of the paper supply tray 112, is configured with various icons including the paper size “icon 175-2” and the paper type “icon 178-1 in fig. 10”. Another figure that describes the same as above limitation in col. 6, lines 21-26 and fig. 9: the Paper Stock selection 170 is displayed which when actuated displays three levels of stock selections, i.e., Size, Type and Color on touchscreen 62 in the work area 157); and

displaying current configuration status information about the print media supply tray (col. 6, lines 47-52 describes that the identified specific stock “i.e., size, type or color of the supply paper” is currently loaded in each of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 and updated and displayed onto Paper Supply file card 191 “in fig. 10” on touchscreen 62 to show the stock icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, 114. For example, with respect to figure 10, the status of the current configuration of the stock icon 202 representative of the paper tray 112 “in fig. 3” is displayed with various configured icons including paper size icons and paper type icons), including at least the print media size (i.e., the icon 175-2 in fig. 10 shows a current paper size of “8.5x14” in the tray 112), when the print media supply tray is modified with regard to at least to at least the print media size (col. 6, lines 53-58 describes that each of print trays “110, 112, 114” is modified based on the change of a paper stock including size, type and color, then such modification from each of the paper trays, each of the stock icons “200, 202 or 204” representative of each of the trays is displayed with the change of the current size, type and color of the papers in fig. 9 in the work area 157 adjacent the opened tray icon 200, 202 or 204).

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However, Parsons does not teach automatically display current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified with regard to at least the print media size.

McCormick, in the same field of endeavor, teaches automatically display current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified with regard to at least the print media size (col. 4, lines 40-43 describes that the visual image of the printer “33 in fig. 3” preferably changes according to the actual state of the printer *in real time*. That means *when* the container of the paper source tray in the printer is operatively modified with the size of the source paper “please see behind of the visual image of the printer 33 with a note of ‘LTR’ 35 and ‘the selected paper size is currently in the printer’, col. 4, lines 2-7”, then the current configuration of the changing “or modifying” of the tray in the printer is *automatically* displayed in the display device because it is displayed in real time).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the step of displaying in Parsons for automatically displaying the current configuration of the paper source tray when that tray is operatively changed with the size of the sheet as taught by McCormick. The suggestion for modifying the displaying in printing system of Parsons can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by McCormick because the modified printing system of Parsons would increase the functionality of the displaying device for displaying automatically the configuration of the paper source tray when the paper source tray is currently changed with the size of the paper. The resultant systems would allow the user to keep track the currently status of the paper source tray with its paper size and easily to select the size of paper from that tray for printing without mistaking.

As to claim 13, Parsons disclose a system (a system 2 in fig. 1A and fig. 2) comprising:
at least one computer (col. 3, lines 1-9 describes that the printing system image input section 4 has a network 5 “in fig. 2” with a suitable communication channel such as a telephone line enabling image data in the form of image signals or pixels from one or more remote sources to be input to system 2 for processing. Where the Page Description Language PDL of the incoming imaging data is different than the PDL used by system 2. The Page Description Language is mostly generated by the user computers. Therefore, at least one computer is coupled to the printing system 2 via the network 5); and

a printer (i.e., the printing system in fig. 2 would be a printer if the printing system stands alone with on-site “col. 2, lines 60-62”) operatively coupled to the computer (i.e., the discussed computer above via the network 5 in fig. 2), the printer including:

at least one print media supply tray that is selectively configurable based at least on a print media size and a print media type (col. 6, lines 50-52 describes that a touchscreen 62 displays a Paper Supply file card 191 having icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 “in fig. 3”. In fig. 10, the display screen shows a stock icon 202 representative of a paper supply tray 112 “col. 6, lines 50-52” with a current note of the paper size “8.5X14.0” and the paper type “Standard”) based at least on a print media size (i.e., an icon 175-2 with a paper size of 8.5x14 in fig. 10) and a print media type (i.e., an icon 178-1 with a paper type of “Standard” in fig. 10; it is noted that the selective stock icon 202 “in fig. 10”, would be representative of the paper supply tray 112, is configured with various icons including the paper size “icon 175-2” and the paper type “icon 178-1 in fig. 10”. Another figure that describes the same as above limitation in col. 6, lines 21-26 and fig. 9: the Paper Stock selection

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170 is displayed which when actuated displays three levels of stock selections, i.e., Size, Type and Color on touchscreen 62 in the work area 157); and

at least one controller (i.e., the controller 80 in fig. 5B communicates with the User Interface “UI” for transmitting data to and from UI 52 “col. 5, lines 20-22”) arranged to update and output current configuration status information about the print media supply tray (col. 6, lines 47-52 describes that the identified specific stock “i.e., size, type or color of the supply paper” is currently loaded in each of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 and updated and displayed onto Paper Supply file card 191 “in fig. 10” on touchscreen 62 to show the current configuration of stock icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, 114. For example, with respect to figure 10, the status of the current configuration of the stock icon 202 representative of the current status of the paper tray 112 “in fig. 3” is displayed with various configured icons including the current paper size icons and the current paper type icons), including the print media size and the print media type (i.e., the icon “175-2 in fig. 10” corresponding to a current paper size of “8.5x14” and the icon “178-1 in fig. 10” corresponding to a current paper type of “Standard”), when the print media supply tray is operatively modified (col. 6, lines 53-58 describes that each of trays “110, 112, 114” is modified based on the current change of a paper stock including size, type and color, then such modification from each of the paper trays, each of the stock icons “200, 202 or 204” representative of each of the trays is displayed on touchscreen 62 with the change of the current size, type and color of the papers in fig. 9 in the work area 157 adjacent the opened tray icon 200, 202 or 204).

However, Parsons does not teach automatically update by the controller and output current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified.

McCormick, in the same field of endeavor, teaches automatically updating by the controller and outputting current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified (col. 4, lines 40-43 describes that the visual image of the printer “33 in fig. 3” preferably changes according to the actual state of the printer *in real time*. That means, in the printer, *when* the container of the paper source tray is operatively modified with the paper source paper size “please see behind of the visual image of the printer 33 with a note of ‘LTR’ 35 and ‘the selected paper size is currently in the printer’ and col. 4, lines 2-7”, the current configuration of the changing “or modifying” of the tray in the printer is *automatically* updated and outputted to a display device because it is displayed in real time).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the controller 80 in Parsons for automatically updating and outputting the displaying of the current configuration of the paper source tray when that tray is operatively changed as taught by McCormick. The suggestion for modifying the displaying in printing system of Parsons can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by McCormick because the modified printing system of Parsons would increase the functionality of the controller for automatically updating and displaying the configuration of the paper source tray when the paper source tray is currently changed with the size and/or type of the paper. The resultant systems would allow the user to keep track the currently status of the paper source tray

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with its paper size and easily to select the size of paper from that tray for printing without mistaking.

As to claim 21, Parsons discloses a printer (i.e., the printing system in fig. 2 would be a printer if the printing system stands alone with on-site “col. 2, lines 60-62”) for use with at least one computer (col. 3, lines 1-9 describes that the printing system image input section 4 has a network 5 “in fig. 2” with a suitable communication channel such as a telephone line enabling image data in the form of image signals or pixels from one or more remote sources to be input to system 2 for processing. Where the Page Description Language PDL of the incoming imaging data is different than the PDL used by system 2. The Page Description Language is mostly generated by the user computers. Therefore, at least one computer is coupled to the printing system 2 via the network 5), the printer comprising:

at least one print media supply tray that is selectively configurable based at least on a print media size and a print media type (col. 6, lines 50-52 describes that a touchscreen 62 displays a Paper Supply file card 191 having icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 “in fig. 3”. In fig. 10, the display screen shows a stock icon 202 representative of a paper supply tray 112 “col. 6, lines 50-52” with a current note of the paper size “8.5X14.0” and the paper type “Standard”) based at least on a print media size (i.e., an icon 175-2 with a paper size of 8.5x14 in fig. 10) and a print media type (i.e., an icon 178-1 with a paper type of “Standard” in fig. 10; it is noted that the selective stock icon 202 “in fig. 10”, would be representative of the paper supply tray 112, is configured with various icons including the paper size “icon 175-2” and the paper type “icon 178-1 in fig. 10”. Another figure that describes the same as above limitation in col. 6, lines 21-26 and fig. 9: the Paper Stock selection

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170 is displayed which when actuated displays three levels of stock selections, i.e., Size, Type and Color on touchscreen 62 in the work area 157); and

at least one controller (i.e., the controller 80 in fig. 5B communicates with the User Interface “UI” for transmitting data to and from UI 52 “col. 5, lines 20-22”) arranged to automatically update and output current configuration status information about the print media supply tray (col. 6, lines 47-52 describes that the identified specific stock “i.e., size, type or color of the supply paper” is currently loaded in each of the paper supply trays 110, 112, and 114 and automatically updated and displayed onto Paper Supply file card 191 “in fig. 10” on touchscreen 62 to show the current configuration of stock icons 200, 202, 204 representative of the paper supply trays 110, 112, 114. For example, with respect to figure 10, the status of the current configuration of the stock icon 202 representative of the current status of the paper tray 112 “in fig. 3” is automatically displayed with various configured icons including the current paper size icons and the current paper type icons), including the print media size and the print media type (i.e., the icon “175-2 in fig. 10” corresponding to a current paper size of “8.5x14” and the icon “178-1 in fig. 10” corresponding to a current paper type of “Standard”), when the print media supply tray is operatively modified (col. 6, lines 53-58 describes that each of trays “110, 112, 114” is modified based on the current change of a paper stock including size, type and color, then such modification from each of the paper trays, each of the stock icons “200, 202 or 204” representative of each of the trays is automatically displayed on touchscreen 62 with the change of the current size, type and color of the papers in fig. 9 in the work area 157 adjacent the opened tray icon 200, 202 or 204).

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However, Parsons does not teach automatically update by the controller and output current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified.

McCormick, in the same field of endeavor, teaches automatically updating by the controller and outputting current configuration status about the paper supply tray when the print media supply tray is operatively modified (col. 4, lines 40-43 describes that the visual image of the printer “33 in fig. 3” preferably changes according to the actual state of the printer *in real time*. That means, in the printer, *when* the container of the paper source tray is operatively modified with the paper source paper size “please see behind of the visual image of the printer 33 with a note of ‘LTR’ 35 and ‘the selected paper size is currently in the printer’ and col. 4, lines 2-7”, the current configuration of the changing “or modifying” of the tray in the printer is *automatically* updated and outputted to a display device because it is displayed in real time).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the controller 80 in Parsons for automatically updating and outputting the displaying of the current configuration of the paper source tray when that tray is operatively changed as taught by McCormick. The suggestion for modifying the displaying in printing system of Parsons can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by McCormick because the modified printing system of Parsons would increase the functionality of the controller for automatically updating and displaying the configuration of the paper source tray when the paper source tray is currently changed with the size and/or type of the paper. The resultant systems would allow the user to keep track the currently status of the paper source tray

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with its paper size and easily to select the size of paper from that tray for printing without mistaking.

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Parsons and McCormick as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Jin (US Patent No. 6,480,209).

As to claim 10, Parsons and McCormick disclose every feature discussed in claim 1, and Parsons further teaches the print job request for preparing including at least one of selections which are selected from the display device 62 (in fig. 1B) comprising a print media supply tray selection (either 200 or 202 in fig. 10), a print media type selection (178-1 in fig. 10), a print media size selection (175-2 in fig. 10) and a print media availability selection (it is noted that a print media selections, such as a paper size 175-2 or a paper type 178-1 or a color paper 180-1 in the window dialog box 191 “in fig. 10”, would be considered as a print media availability because they are available for selection by the user. In addition, a print media availability selection can be selected from the paper source tray 200 in fig. 10), a print media post-processing selection (i.e., a “stacker collated” selection on the fourth tab from the left of the screen in fig. 7), a simplex print selection and a duplex print selection (a “sides imaged” selection “on the fourth tab from the left of the screen in fig. 9” shows the image is printed on the simplex print selection or duplex print selection), a print media marking selection (i.e., a “Precut Tab” that is a type of the print media for selection in fig. 14. Col. 7, lines 3-11 describes that The “precut tab” of print media is marked with a tab 212 “in fig. 11” and the information “in fig. 12”).

However, Parsons does not explicitly teach operatively preparing a print job request using at least one application and a print driver in a computer coupled to the printer.

McCormick teaches operatively preparing a print job request at a computer (10 in fig. 1) coupled to the printer (20 in fig. 1) using at least one application (i.e., the Microsoft Word) and a print driver (i.e., the Window Print Manager) (It is noted that, for preparing the print job request, the print job including the prepared document and the prepared print instruction. The prepared document that is the readme.doc “in fig. 4” generated from the application of the Microsoft Word; and col. 3, line 64 to col. 4, line 9 describes that the prepared print instructions are selected by a user from the Printer Setup dialog box such as a paper size or number of copies “from fig. 3”. The print job request, including the document data and print instructions, is generated by the Windows Print Manager “col. 8, lines 20-25 describes that the Queue Processor 1600 in fig. 16 receives the print job request from the Windows Print Manager”. Therefore, the Windows Print Manager would be considered as the printer driver for preparing and generating the print job request).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the printing system of Parsons for preparing the print job at a computer using at least one application and a print driver as taught by McCormick. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of Parsons can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by McCormick because the modified printing system of Parsons would increase the more efficiency by having at least one application and a print driver at a computer for preparing the print jobs. The resultant systems would provide any document for printing from the application and the current configuration of the printer is displayed by the print

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driver. Therefore, if the print job is prepared by the print driver with the actual configuration of the printer, the printer easily complete that print job.

However, the combination of Parsons and McCormick does not teach a print media output tray selection is selected to the print job request.

Jin, in the same field of endeavor, teaches the configuration of the print media output tray (63 or 71 in fig. 3) of the printer (20 in fig. 1) is displayed in the screen (91 in fig. 3) and selected by the user for the print job (col. 5, lines 2-5 describes that the operator desires to select the mailbox tray 63 of the printer, which would be representative of the print media output tray, for the print job "col. 1, lines 27-30).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the display device of the combination of Parsons and McCormick to include the configuration of output trays in order to be selected by the user for preparing the print job as taught by Jin. The suggestion for modifying the display device in the combination of Parsons and McCormick can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Jin because the modified display device of the combination of Parsons and McCormick would be increase more optional configuration status of the printer by adding the configuration of the print media output trays. The resultant systems allow the user to select one of the output trays and easily to kick up his print job at the desired output tray of the printer.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-9, 11-12, 14-20, and 22-28 are objected.

Claims 2, 7, and 14 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base

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claims 1, 13 and 21 respectively, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 2, the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach “selectively configuring the print media supply tray further includes causing at least a print media size detectable mechanism to be modified in a manner that corresponds to the print media size, and causing at least a print media type detectable mechanism to be modified in a manner that corresponds to the print media type.

As to claim 7, the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach “selectively configuring the print media supply tray further includes at least once, initially, installing print driver software on at least one computer coupled to the printer, wherein, during print driver software installation a user is prompted, using a graphical user interface, to configure the print driver software *to match* the configuration of the print media supply tray based at least on the print media size, the print media type, and at least one print media supply tray *identifier*”.

As to claims 14 and 22, the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach “the printer further includes at least a print media size detectable mechanism and a print media type detectable mechanism arranged to be modified in a manner that corresponds to the print media size and the print media type, respectively, associated with the print media supply tray.

Claim 11 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim 1 and 10, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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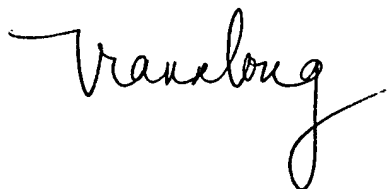
As to claim 11, the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach “operatively *preparing a print job request* further includes *identifying* if the current configuration status will prevent the print job from being completed based on at least one of the desired print media requirements ,and, if so, *alerting* the user that the printer needs manual intervention to complete of the print job”.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
May 09, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tran Douglas", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.